

the RARS

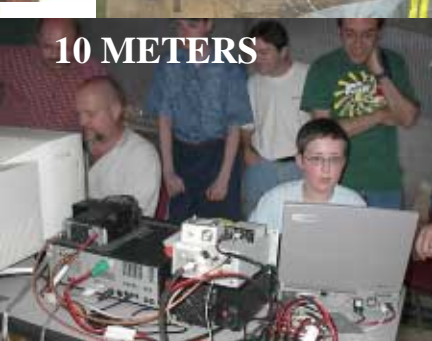
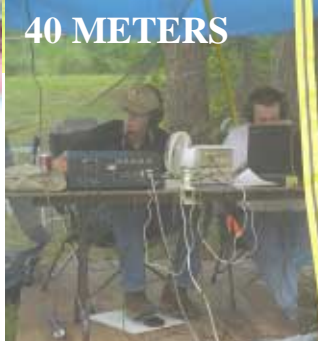
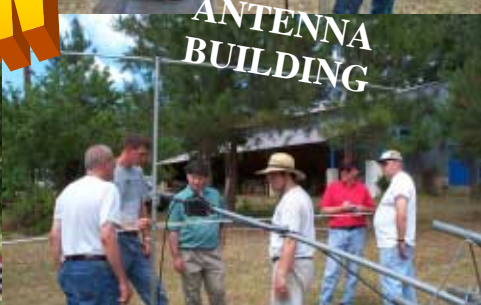
Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

Exciter



Worldwide Friendship

May 2005, Number 409



FIELD DAY—JUNE 25-26, 2005



The Exciter

The *Exciter* is the monthly newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It is available in both printed and electronic form. The printed version is mailed to members just before each club meeting. The electronic form, in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, is e-mailed about a week earlier.

We solicit both articles and advertising. The deadline for submissions is first Friday of the month or Friday after the monthly meeting. Contact the Editor.

The views contained in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors, and are not necessarily the views of the Editor, or the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society.

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the Amateur Radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, we incorporated a new RARS, and obtained 501(c)(3) Non-Profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friend-ship through Amateur Radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic need; to educate members in radio technique; and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining Amateur Radio licenses.

Anyone interested in Amateur Radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18.00 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5.00 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12.00 per year. Dues for non-licensed Associate members are \$9.00 per year.

Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer, or the RARS web site (www.rars.org).

EXCITER EDITOR:

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K4DAW
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OFFICERS

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kd4isc@arrl.net**

TREASURER:

**Greg Seamster KE4PAX
919-859-0029
ke4pax@arrl.net**

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh:

145.13 (82.5 PL)
146.64
224.64 (Temporarily off the air)
444.525 (82.5 PL)

WEB SITE www.rars.org



PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

CQ Field Day!



With the hard work and coordinated effort of the Hamfest behind us for another year.. With severe weather season just kicking off... with the kids getting antsy to get out of school... Field Day must be just around the corner!

We had a great time last year at the W4CAE ranch, and plan to return there this year as strong as ever. I really hope you can make it out, even just for an hour or two. The more, the merrier! Field Day is a great opportunity to practice some skills, make some friends, and generally have a good time.

If you're not sure about operating, or you're wondering if there'll be a chance for you to get on the air, let me reassure you -- there's plenty of opportunity. If you know where you want to operate ahead of time, drop a note to the band captain, or to Neal N4HAF (@arrl.net), then come join the festivities!
73, Andy

The Exciter goes to the printer the first Monday after the general meeting. Electronic mailing is the same week. Printing and mailing may vary.

RALEIGH AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY MEETINGS

Date: Every first Tuesday of the Month
Location: Forest Hills Baptist Church, at Dixie Trail and Clark Avenue, in Raleigh
Time: 7:30pm. Folks start showing up a bit before 7 to chat, brag and eat donuts.

VE Testing: The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August and November RARS meetings, at the RARSfest in April, the Cary Swapfest in July and the JARSfest in November, and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID, the original and a copy of your current license, plus any CSCEs you have for credit. Please refer to www.rars.org for more information.

TECHNICAL & TRADERS NET– Saturday evenings on 146.64 after the 8:00pm RARS net

Announcements

NEXT RARS MEETING:
Tuesday, May 3, 2005 7:30 pm
TBA

Field Day June 25-26.
Band Captains are needed, please
contact Neil N4HAF@nc.rr.com

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

MOTORCYCLE CHARITY RIDE
Cary to Sanford on Sunday May 15.
Need 4-5 hams for 4 hours, over by
11am. Contact Rod
ab4rg@rod2415@bellsouth.net

FIRECRACKER 50/100K Cary, NC
Monday July 4th. Need 12 hams for 7
hours, over by 2pm. Bob
K1RCB@arrl.net

MS-150 Sat-Sun September 10-11.
40 hams are needed. Please make
your motel reservations NOW. Need
40 hams for 2 days.
Check website for accommodations
[http://nationalmssociety.org/nct/](http://nationalmssociety.org/nct/home/)
home/
CONTACT:
Bruce N8UTY <n8uty@arrl.net>, to
volunteer.

RARS DINNER

Come join us on the **2nd** Tuesday of each month. We are currently meeting in the private dining room at the Golden Corral, 6129 Glenwood Avenue. People start arriving around 6:30pm., and things usually wind down by 8pm or so. You can come whenever it's convenient for you. This gathering is open to anyone, RARS and non-RARS members, adults and children alike. Hope to see you there.

HAMFEST CALENDAR

May 20-22	Dayton, OH
May 21	Williamston, NC
May 28	Durham, NC
June 11	Winston-Salem, NC
June 25-26	FIELD DAY
July 2	Salisbury, NC
July 16	Cary, NC
July 23	Waynesville, NC
August 13	Fayetteville, NC
September 3-4	Shelby, NC
October 9*	Maysville, NC



Courtesy of the SERA Repeater Journal
*Date is not confirmed

LOOKing Back 30 Years

Taken from the May 1975 Exciter

The hamfest in April (1975) had an attendance of 803 persons. A call to action: Amateur Radio as you know it is under attack. Amateur Radio must get organized. Instead of the present loose "affiliation" with our national organization, every area should have an ARRL "chapter". There should still be special interest groups, such as DX, FM, RTTY, etc. But every city and town should have a central organization as part of our national organization. This would make the presence of our organization more visible on the local level. It would draw more into feeling they are part of our league



LOOKing Back 10 Years

Taken from the May 1995 Exciter

The Exciter, the newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society (RARS) was rated "Excellent" in the 1994 national radio club newsletter contest of the Amateur Radio News Service (ARNS). "Excellent" is the highest rating offered in the ARNS judging.

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome the following new members to RARS. Thank you for considering us for your amateur radio club.

Dick KB1HIW
Nancy KB1HIX
Sandy AC1Y



MAY MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Ray	K4RMV	05/02
Larry	W4WIV	05/05
Larry	KG4FIQ	05/05
Liz	KO4CK	05/05
Jim	K4ABJ	05/08
Hughie	KF4RDU	05/08
Wayne	K6TWX	05/08
Hank	K4HM	05/08
Wayne	WA4SNC	05/08
Christopher	N4VGK	05/09
Brian	KA9QJT	05/10
Linda	N2YL	05/11
Bill	WB2QFZ	05/12
Chuck	AE4CD	05/12
Ed	WA4PEN	05/13
Bill	AE4XV	05/14
Chris	KE4TMO	05/17
Larry	K1ZW	05/20
Tom	K4ZAD	05/21
Lynn	KG4LTM	05/27
Courtney	KI4HOS	05/27

NET REPORTS FOR MARCH 2005

8:00pm DAILY: RARS Evening Net

Participants 472
Traffic 36/30
Time 721 minutes
Sessions 31

8:30pm SAT: Tech & Traders Net 9:00pm MON: SWL/SIG

Participants 58
Traffic 0/0
Time 372 Minutes
Sessions 8

Minutes of the RARS Board February 2005

The Board of Directors meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was conducted on February 15, 2005 at the Forest Hills Baptist Church located on Dixie Trail.

Attendance: Board – Andy Peterson, NI4S, Dick Bitner, W8HYD, Hank Montgomery, K4HM, Selene Montgomery, KG4RMT, Denyse Walter, K4DAW, Jim Walter, K4FIJ, Bob Breyer, K1RCB, Gary Pearce, KN4AQ, Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, Greg Seamster, KE4PAX, Mary Holtschneider, KG4OQA, Dick Orander, KD4ISC. Others – Mary Jo Littlewood, K4MJL.

President Andy Peterson, NI4S, called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

On a motion from Hank K4HM and second by Jim K4FIJ, the January Board meeting minutes were approved as presented.

Officers' Reports

Greg KE4PAX provided the Treasurer's report and advised there are 249+ club members.

Dick W8HYD provided the Vice President's report.

- The March meeting will be a contesting program and include a hamfest pep talk.

- The April meeting program will be given by Bob Conder, K4RLC, on emergency planning and the geo-hazards of the Carolinas.

- A discussion about when the awards meeting should occur followed. It was determined that awards will be presented in March.

- Dick will work on the final paperwork required to use the RTP Nortel facilities whenever Jeff Wittich, AC4ZO, is in town.

- Orange County is considering sponsoring training classes.

Committee Reports

Exciter – Denyse K4DAW reported the March Exciter went to the printer on the 11th. The deadline for submitting articles for the April newsletter will be Wednesday, the 23rd.

Membership Services – Denyse K4DAW reported that Selene, KG4RMT, will be the greeter at the sign-in desk during the monthly meetings. Additional greeters are needed. There was discussion of the idea of assigning club members to guests and introducing them at our meetings.

Public Information – Gary KN4AQ advised there were no updates to report.

FM Committee – Gary KN4AQ advised there was no news to report.

Net Manager – Mary KG4OQA reported nets are going well and there have been many new people checking in. Net control stations are still needed. Advise anyone interested to contact her.

Webmaster – no report.

Hamfest – Hank K4HM advised there were about 20 people signed up for the flyer labeling party that will be held on the 16th. The next hamfest committee meeting will be held at Tim Nicholson's (W4NOT) home on Monday the 21st. Hamfest tickets will be available for purchase at the March meeting. The committee is still looking for a major dealer to attend the hamfest. The club webpage has been updated and online orders for tickets, tables and volunteer sign-up should be available soon.

Field Day – no report.

VE Team – no report.

Public Service – Bob K1RCB provided handouts which summarized the upcoming public service events. He wants to find an MS150 ham coordinator soon to handle that event. The April MS walk has a possible coordinator. The Firecracker bike ride and May motorcycle ride still need radio coordinators. There are additional CERT training classes available in February and March. Copies of the Exciter have been given to non-ham members of the recent CERT classes. Bob asked for help in getting the public service events listed on the club's webpage.

ARRL Liaison – Chuck K4HF advised the ARRL Board of Directors has asked the FCC to reconsider their BPL decisions.

W4DW / W4RNC Trustee – no report.

At-Large Directors

- Jim K4FIJ reported the Secretary's cabinet is being moved to Dick's (KD4ISC) house.

- Selene KG4RMT asked if the RARS birthday party would be held during the March or April meeting. After discussion it was determined the party would be held as part of the March meeting. Selene also suggested the birthday goodies be served prior to the formal meeting.

- Bob K1RCB asked that we all make an effort to meet new people at our meetings. Discussion followed on how to welcome newcomers to our club meetings. Bob will be talking to members of Ravenscroft School to advise them of ham radio classes and suggest the possibility of an amateur radio club.

Unfinished Business

Hank K4HM reported on his follow-up investigation for printing the Exciter. The printer who has handled the RARSfest flyers cannot print in color. Discussion followed on the requirement to have color in the newsletter. In general it was thought that the current cost of printing is okay and that further consideration into the cost of the newsletter as well as color versus black and white printing could wait until the new budget is considered. Bob K1RCB offered to pursue other printers and investigate pricing and printing capabilities. Hank will follow up with Jay on pricing for the newsletter if done in black and white or spot coloring.

New Business

Discussion of the awards committee for the March meeting was brought to the floor. Chuck K4HF has created a list of people to be recognized. Additional suggestions are welcomed. Selene KG4RMT, Andy NI4S, Dick W8HYD and Chuck K4HF will review the list of those to be recognized.

General Comments

Gary KN4AQ discussed the recent tones being heard on the 64 repeater. He noted the tones stopped after being ignored.

Dick KD4ISC reported that he's still recruiting help for the March 5 Odyssey of the Mind Tournament. He's included an invitation to young and new hams with every announcement. James Allen, KG4ISM has completed NTS traffic training and will be recognized with a certificate during the March general meeting.

Selene KG4RMT asked the club consider a donation to the Handi Hams organization. After discussion of this idea, Jim K4FIJ made a motion to donate \$500 to the Handi Hams organization to use as they see fit. A second was provided by Selene KG4RMT. The vote carried in favor of the motion.

Bob K1RCB ask for help in recruiting a ham coordinator for the MS150. Dick KD4ISC suggested Bruce Arnold, N8UTY, be considered. Supporting discussion followed. Bob will follow up with Bruce.

Denyse K4DAW asked that pictures be taken at the Odyssey of the Mind Tournament which could be included in the Exciter. A request was made for an MS150 announcement for the newsletter. She also reminded members of the Wednesday deadline for articles to be included in the April edition.

Andy NI4S discussed an idea for an HF challenge for the club members. This would be an internal contest to promote some fun radio activity with the club. Favorable discussion followed. The idea of the HF challenge will be presented at the March general meeting.

Gary KN4AQ reported that several of the club members would be going to the Timonium hamfest near Baltimore to conduct the rites and rituals of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong. No further discussion was held due to the sensitivity of the subject.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Submitted by Dick Orander, KD4ISC, Secretary

About RARS Members



Name: Dick Bitner
Call: W8HYD
Residence: 3408 Ingram Dr.
 Raleigh, NC 27604
When and Why I became a ham:

It was a dark and stormy night, a shot rang out, the maid screamed and I tuned in Kraft Radio Theater on my old AM clock radio, spring 1954. I still have the radio. I was listening to KOMO, somewhere

west of the Mississippi River, on that night and I thought, wow, I could hear a station from a state I had only read about. I was hooked on radio and on AM Dxing.

I found that some of my friends in the band also were interested in "listening to stations outside of Ohio" and one of them knew a guy that actually talked to folks on the radio. Once again, I was very interested and together we rode our bikes over for a visit. The guy, Phil Krichbaum, WN8TTN, now N0KE, showed us his station, got on the air (cw of course) and made contact with a station in Texas. I couldn't understand what was being said, so Phil wrote down the letters as he received them and I was done, forget everything else, I had to get on the air. Phil gave me a license manual and I began the trip.

I got my license late fall 1954 as WN8HYD. I still talk to Phil and some of the guys and gals that formed TARA (the original Teen Age Radio Association in Akron, Ohio) the fall of 1954.

Equipment Owned:

YAESU FT 101E, FT101EE and FT100D transceivers, speaker, and D104 mike

SWAN Cygnet 270 HF transceiver

Hammarlund HQ-100 General Coverage Receiver

Alinco DR130 2 meter mobile transceiver

Heathkit SB-630 Station Console (hides the outboard speaker for the FT100D)

Old McElroy bug and various straight keys

MFJ 941E tuner.

Hallicrafters HA-1 Keyer (a real classic)

A Hustler 4BTV trap vertical, this one is 30 plus years old and looks the part

A classic 6 meter "halo" true basketball hoop style.

And... various odds and ends including a 500mw dual band hand held flea power HT.

HF: Of Course CW; the one and only true digital mode

PHONE: ssb, am and fm

Do you do contesting:

I enjoy Field Day, SKN, some Sweep Stakes and VHF contests

Other Hobbies and Something about myself:

I enjoy my grand kids and family activities. I used to do a lot of camping and travel but I stick close to home today. I have served as a council person and city planning commission member while still in Ohio and enjoyed serving my community, and I was on the Raleigh Parks and Greenways Advisory Board for 5 years, Chairman for one of those. I guess I'm very conservation minded.

My education is in Physical Geography/Geology, minor secondary education, taught four years in an independent school. I became a sales application engineer in the process control industry as a result of my electronics background, as a ham and via electronics tech school in the US Air Force, and my working as an MATV/CCTV engineer at college. I became a regional sales manager for two well-known antenna companies, and ended up as a Manager for Advance Mfg. Technology, which brought me to Raleigh in the mid 1980's. I have been a consultant for Mfg. Technology, and have been a partner and owner of Management Applications Inc., an accounting software var/support company from the late 1980's.



PCRN

146.88, 145.39, 147.105, 147.135
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More info on PCRN, www.pcrn.net

Triangle/Eastern NC
Hams Needed for MS-150 Sept 10-11
by Gary Pearce KN4AQ

The Eastern NC MS-150 Bike Tour may be in New Bern these days, but the event still needs plenty of hams from the Triangle and eastern North Carolina. The incentive is that it's a great trip, a worthwhile event, and two days of the most intense hamming on the busiest repeaters you may hear in your life.

This year's Communications Chairman is Bruce Arnold N8UTY. Bruce is the ARES EC for Craven County and the New Bern Amateur Radio Club, and he's been helping with the event from that end of the world for years. With Bob Breyer K1RCB stepping down, and the event now centered in New Bern, it seemed right to have the Comm Chair from that area.

But while coastal hams do participate, their ranks are a bit thin for an event this size. Triangle and eastern NC hams have been supporting the MS-150 for years, since its early days with routes beginning in Greenville and Clayton. So please consider volunteering!

And if you decide to help, you need to make hotel reservations now! The MS-150 web site shows that most hotels in New Bern are already full. But there is room in Kinston and Havelock, 20 to 30 minutes away from New Bern, and some Bed & Breakfast type rooms still open. Check the web site at:
http://www.nationalmssociety.org/nct/event/event_page.asp?p=17176&e=8671

ABOUT THE MS-150:

The MS-150 is a 150 mile bike tour sponsored by the Eastern NC chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. It's a fund raiser for research and support for people with MS. It's become a huge success. The early rides with 300 to 400 riders have exploded! This year's turnout should be near 1500 riders!

The Tour makes a 75 mile loop out of New Bern into the quiet back roads of Pamlico County on Saturday, and a 75 mile loop into equally quiet roads in Craven County on Sunday. Each loop has a 25 mile "Century" extension for riders who want a bigger challenge.

A 75 or 100 mile bike ride is a huge individual challenge. Most people would never do it in a lifetime. Some of the MS-150 riders are serious athletes, but most are just ordinary people. What makes this event so popular, and just plain possible for the average rider, is the great route through quiet country roads, the company of so many other riders, and the phenomenal support the riders get. Rest stops about

every 12 miles, with water and energy snacks. Breakfast before they go. Lunch at the half-way point. A big banquet dinner Saturday night.

And total communications for safety, with SAG wagons blanketing the course, medics, mechanics and help anytime they need it.

That, of course, is where hams come in. We man the rest stops. Shadow the medics, Tour leaders and supply trucks. And for the past several years we've provided most of the SAG wagons - not just the radio ops, but the drivers and the vehicles, too. With help from the Eastern NC Repeater Assn's 146.685 Grifton machine, and PCRN's 145.21 Trenton machine, we have wall-to-wall coverage and backup.

All we need is you!

It takes more than 40 hams to cover this event. We usually get just enough, but could always use a few more (especially SAG wagons)! Hams come from across eastern NC to participate because it's so much fun, and so worthwhile. You may NEVER hear a busier repeater with 98% event-driven traffic. This is the place to hone your logistics communications skills.

Triangle and eastern NC hams have a great tradition of supporting the MS-150. In the early days, the Tour started in Greenville, and later near Raleigh, and made a one-way beeline to the coast. The quest for flat land, great roads and a good support facility led the organizers to New Bern where it's all come together. The town and the Convention Center are behind the Tour 100%.

But hams are a bit sparse along the coast. Oh, yes, they pitch in! The New Bern Amateur Radio Club promotes the MS-150 all year. The Carteret County Comm Trailer provides the home for Net Control. But MS Headquarters is in Raleigh. The majority of the riders are from the Triangle area (look for bike-laden cars speeding down US 70 on Friday). And they need our help! It's a terrific example of hams working together.

So block off Sept. 10-11 (maybe some of Friday, too) and join us for a weekend of hamming almost as intense as Field Day!

Contact Bruce N8UTY today: <n8uty@arrl.net>, and volunteer.



FIELD DAY COMMENTS FROM RARS MEMBER

I have been very fortunate to work 40 meter CW for about the past five years with Neal N4HAF, Charlie W4VFJ, Dale W4AUV and sometimes Bob Keys Na4G. They have been great mentors to me. I think they represent some of the finest in traditional HF ham radio.

While I don't want to be critical, it concerns me that many RARS members do not participate in Field Day. Or, they participate with other clubs. They are missing out on a great radio learning experience, one that has been around since the early days of ham radio. It also is a great way to prepare for emergency operations. Finally, those who don't participate miss the excellent BBQ dinner on Saturday night. I have been promised Nanner Puddin' this year for dessert, by the FD Chair Neal N4HAF.

-You don't have to be a hot shot operator to be involved. Everyone gets a turn at the key or the mike, regardless of license class or ham radio experience.

-So, I hope more RARS members will come out, even if for an hour or two. And we need more cw ops, as cw counts double points over phone.

-Hope to c u all at FD 2005.
73 de K4RLC Bob

NEW RARS HF CHALLENGE

Andy NI4S

The RARS HF Challenge is to be a friendly competition among RARS club members. The aim is to encourage operation on the HF bands, and further to encourage sharing or operating tips, tricks, and tales among members.

The object of the Challenge is to HAVE FUN!! And to have QSO's with different US States, Canadian Provinces, DXCC countries, and NC counties. A QSO counts for 1 point, regardless of band or mode. Operation is open to the HF bands, 160m—10m, including WARC and 60m bands. Please observe band plans where applicable. A QSO is defined as exchanging any kind of information directly with another station. The intent here is to have an honest QSO — not count every NC County represented on the Tarheel Emergency Net you just checked into.

Challenge Period is April 15, 2005 1200Z to January 1, 2006 1159Z. Tally sheets are due by February 15, 2006 at 7:00pm Eastern. You may submit tally sheets throughout the year so you can show off your progress—in fact that's encouraged.

For the top three claimed scores in each category, logs (tally sheets) will be checked at the end of the year. The Challenge Master will have final authority as it relates to interpretation or amendment of the rules and the awarding of Challenge points.

Contact **Andy Peterson NI4S 919-845-6251 ni4s@arrl.net**
For tally sheet and official rules

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FIELD DAY BONUS POINTS

From ARRL

For better competition here is a few of the ways to get bonus points. We need people to get these extra points. Please let Neal know if you're interested.

100% Emergency Power: 100 points per transmitter classification if all contacts are made only using an emergency power source. Free transmitters do not count towards the group's total (GOTA station and free VHF Station for Class A entries) and do not qualify for bonus point credit. All transmitting equipment at the site must operate from a power source completely independent of the commercial power mains to qualify.

(Example: a club operating 3 transmitters plus a GOTA station and using 100% emergency power receives 300 bonus points.) (GOTA = Get on the air station)

Media Publicity: 100 bonus points may be earned for attempting to obtain publicity from the local media. A copy of the press release, or a copy of the actual media publicity received (newspaper article, etc) must be submitted to claim the points.

Public Location: 100 bonus points for physically locating the Field Day operation in a public place (shopping center, community park, school campus, etc). The intent is for amateur radio to be on display to the public.

Public Information Table: 100 bonus points for a Public Information Table at the Field Day site. The purpose is to make appropriate handouts and information available to the visiting public at the site. A copy of a visitor's log, copies of club handouts or photos is sufficient evidence for claiming this bonus.

Message Origination to Section Manager: 100 bonus points for origination of a National Traffic System (NTS) style formal message to the ARRL Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator by your group from its site. You should include the club name, number of participants, Field Day location, and number of ARES operators involved with your station. The message must be transmitted during the Field Day period and a fully serviced copy of it must be included in your submission, in standard ARRL NTS format, or no credit will be given. The Section Manager message is separate from the messages handled in section 7.3.6 and may not also be claimed for bonus points under that rule.

Message Handling: 10 points for each formal NTS style originated, relayed or received and delivered dur-

ing the Field Day period, up to a maximum of 100 points (ten messages). Properly serviced copies of each message must be included with the Field Day report.

Satellite QSO: 100 bonus points for successfully completing at least one QSO via an amateur radio satellite during the Field Day period. Under the "General Rules for All ARRL Contests" (rule 3.7.2.), the no-repeater QSO stipulation is waived for satellite QSOs. Groups are allowed one dedicated satellite transmitter station without increasing their entry category. Satellite QSO's also count for regular QSO credit. The QSO must be Earth-Satellite-Earth in nature.

QSOs also count for regular QSO credit. Show them listed separately on the summary sheet as a separate "band." You do not receive an additional bonus for contacting different satellites, though the additional QSOs may be counted for QSO credit.

Alternate Power: 100 bonus points for Field Day groups making a minimum of five QSOs without using power from commercial mains or a petroleum driven generator. This means an "alternate" energy source of power, such as solar, wind, methane or water. This includes batteries charged by natural means (not dry cells). The natural power transmitter counts as an additional transmitter. If you do not wish to it to increase your operating category, you should take one of your other transmitters off the air while the natural power transmitter is in operation. A separate list of natural power QSOs should be submitted with your entry.

W1AW Bulletin: 100 bonus points for copying the special Field Day bulletin transmitted by W1AW during its operating schedule during the Field Day weekend (listed in this rules announcement). An accurate copy of the message is required to be included in your Field Day submission. (Note: The Field Day bulletin must be copied via amateur radio. It will not be included in Internet bulletins sent out from Headquarters and will not be posted to Internet BBS sites.)

Non-Traditional Mode Demonstrations: A maximum of 300 bonus points (100 points for each demonstration up to three) for setting up a demonstration of a non-traditional mode of amateur radio communications. This includes modes such as APRS, ATV, and SSTV. This bonus is not available for demonstration of a mode for which regular QSO credit is available, such as PSK31.

Let's make this a winning year!!

GENERAL MEETING APRIL 4, 2005

Dick Orander, KD4ISC, was recognized and thanked all of those who helped with the March 5th Odyssey of the Mind Tournament. He reported that everyone had a good time and the Odyssey officials are looking forward to our help next year and for the 2007 state competition.

Andy announced that Jeff Wittich, AC4ZO, had advanced tickets for RARSfest for sale at the side table.

Greg Seamster, KE4PAX, provided the Treasurer's report and advised there were 263 RARS members. Greg invited anyone with questions about membership or the Treasurer's report to stop by and see him.

Business:

- Hank Montgomery, K4HM, discussed the 33rd annual RARSfest that will be held on April 17 this year. He provided sign-up sheets for members to volunteer to help at the fest. Everyone was encouraged to help as much as they can. This year, there will be a party to reward all of the hamfest workers rather than giving away one incentive prizes.
- Jeff Wittich, AC4ZO, reported that several members from RARS traveled to the Baltimore hamfest and Maryland state convention to administer the rites and rituals of the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong. Thirty-one new members were inducted into the organization.
- Neal Fisher, N4HAF, announced that Field Day will occur on the weekend of June 25 and 26. Set up will begin on the afternoon of Friday, June 24. RARS will be returning to our usual site in Apex, courtesy of Jim (N4CAE) and Beth Carroll. It looks like we'll compete in the 7A category and band captains are being firmed up. Everyone is invited to participate.
- Andy, N14S, provided handouts and reviewed the details of the RARS HF Challenge that is being kicked off this month. Everyone is encouraged to participate and enjoy some friendly competition. Rules and log sheets should be available on the club's website soon.
- Jeff Orrock, of the NWS, will be conducting a Skywarn class on lightning. It will be held on April 26 from 7 - 9:30 pm at the Keeter Training Center in Raleigh. Those interested in attending should send Bob Breyer an email at k1rcb@arri.net.

Program: The floor was given to Bob Conder, K4RLC, who provided a presentation on geophysical hazards.

Door Prizes were won by Dick, KD4ISC and Hank, K4HM.

Attendance - 52

Meeting adjourned at 8:48 pm.

Dick Orander-RARS Secretary

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Tuesdays at 9:15 pm
on 146.88 Repeater**

www.ccskywarn.net



NEWS

SKYWARN DINNER
April 28, 6:30 at the El Rodeo Restaurant, Raleigh. NCO's and those wanting to be NCO's only for this dinner.

May 22, 6:30 Golden Corral, Greenwood, Raleigh. Special guest and open to everyone. Please attend.

The 146.88 repeater has been having some problems. Please go to the backup 145.39 MHz (82.5 pl) the backup to the 145.39 is 444.775 MHz (100.0) to give reports.

Several members of Wake ARES participated in the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant drill on April 5th. John KG4HDT manned the communications center at the State EOC. Liz KF4UQZ and David KF4VXJ manned staging positions in Apex. Virginia NC4VA, Tom N4TAB and Bob K4RLC manned the communication center at the Wake County EOC. This was a very serious drill, conducted under the auspices of both the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and FEMA. For Virginia, Tom and Bob the drill developed into an actual emergency, as workers broke a natural gas line outside the Courthouse. Although they worked with a distinct smell of gas, all participants in the drill were eventually evacuated from the EOC to a nearby city park.



Virginia NC4VA, Tom N4TAB, and Bob K4RLC resting with a beverage.



Advanced Skywarn class was held on March 22nd at the TEARA club in Wendell.

Skywarn spotters should be ready to report severe storm reports. Check the Central Carolina Skywarn website (www.ccskywarn.net).

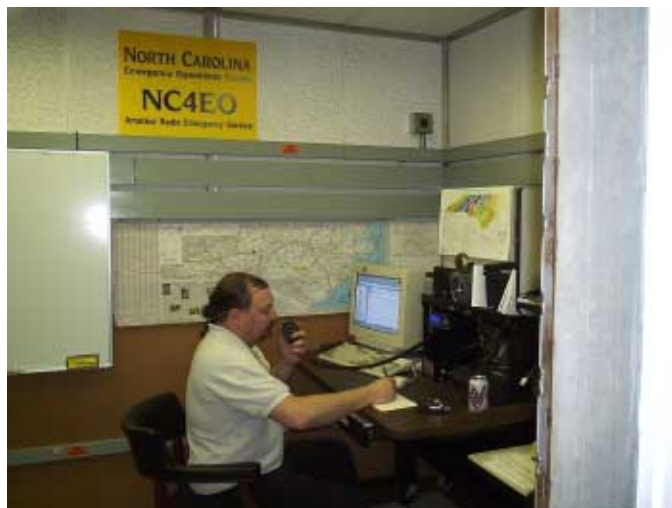
Hail

Dime/penny size $\frac{3}{4}$ " in diameter or larger
Measured wind speeds of GREATER than 58 mph
Damage caused by high winds
Limbs or trees down and their approximate limb or trunk diameter
Any buildings & roof damage you may observe.
Flooding and flash-flooding, where none normally occurs
Rotating wall clouds—hanging down from the cloud base.
Rotating funnel clouds—hanging down from the cloud base.
Tornadoes

Skywarn Class and Nuclear Drill



Advanced Skywarn class at the TEARA meeting Mar 22.



John KG4HDT at the EOC Communications room during the Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant Drill